

What's unique about your community's needs?

- Disconnected youth
 - Youth with disabilities who do not have IEP (Individual Education Plans)
 - Rural youth – lack of resources in rural environments
 - Transportation issues
 - Youth aging out – lack of housing options resulting in nowhere for them to go
 - Multi-cultural approach – language barriers
 - Youth age 21-25 that have no connection to the system
 - Immigration status
 - Lack of connection to resources and lack of the navigation skills necessary to access all available resources
 - Meeting the youth where they are at – satellite office space
 - Change the model of supporting Community Based Organizations
- Children do have parents that are involved – need to consider parent engagement
- Engage and partner with the faith-based communities and their available resources
- The “middle” group of youth – on the edge and could go either way without intervention
- Youth who would transition into DDA and limited resources
- High school graduates with low academic skills
- Engage and reevaluate what state and local agencies are doing
- People not at the table
 - Youth
 - Business leaders
 - Parents
 - Detention facilities – local
 - Foster parents
 - Whole family approach
 - Military bases throughout Maryland
 - Youth that have already aged out
 - State and local elected officials
 - Public Housing
 - Graduate schools

What do you need from others, including the State of Maryland?

People not at the table:

- Youth
- Business leaders
- Parents
- Detention facilities – local
- Foster parents
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- Public Housing
- Graduate schools
- Faith community

RB 21 Rollout- Baltimore County Detailed Report Out, 3.24.10

- Mental Health Providers
- Mentoring organizations and educators
- Workforce development/investment

What are your immediate next steps?

- Develop county level teams to review Ready By 21 and implement at local level
- Regroup every 6 months to share implementation strategies – successes and challenges
- Review existing transition plans to include benchmarks from Ready By 21
- Engage mental health community and involve in future discussions for implementation
- Develop interagency partnerships to share information across systems
- Centralized repository of youth resources

RB 21 Rollout- Talbot County Detailed Report Out, 3.24.10

Anne Arundel/Cecil:

Members- Saquaya Tasker and Yvonne Kranitz- AA and Barbara Smith and Florianda Scott-Cobb- Cecil

What's unique about your community needs?

- High rate of people on assistance
- Lack of education
- Transportation
- Lack of resources- only one Mental Health provider in Cecil county.

How can you take action on the plan?

- Education

What are your needs?

- Transportation
- Education
- Jobs
- Community Outreach

What are your immediate next steps?

- Did not get to

Queen Anne's/Kent

Members- Jacki Carter, Genevie Kennedy, Megan Yowell, Mary Ann Gleason- Queen Anne's, and Jill Coleman- Kent County

What's unique about your community needs?

- Dichotomy – rural suburban, considered part of Bal/Washington corridor causes funding issues
- Kent Island is built up with businesses and N. County (Centreville/Sudlersville/Churchill is rural/farm
- Transportation issues
- Limited business opportunities for Internship/work
- Not enough career-development or college pathway thru middle school
- Lack of knowledge of services and transportation

How can you take action on the plan?

- Writing Grants- need funding/fundraising
- Awareness campaign of there is an Eastern Shore with youth needing services

RB 21 Rollout- Talbot County Detailed Report Out, 3.24.10

- Mentoring opportunities- linkage with caring adults
- Developing partnerships w/agencies, education, business, community, faith based agencies and youth
- Opportunities for leadership development for youth
- Support out of school time activities, including positive risk taking

What are your needs?

- Money
- Capacity building to apply for federal and foundation grants
- Employment opportunities for youth/training
- Need creative ways to build cottage industries (seed money) - model for youth
- Awareness campaign to engage adults
- Life/social skills training

What are your immediate next steps?

- Writing grants/pursuing fundraising
- Building more youth involvement- involve youth in getting messages out
- Involving Chamber of Commerce
- Networking
- Community initiatives (grass roots)
- Press Releases/Articles (media campaign)
- Supporting development of mental health support , other services for youth
- Utilizing public access television
- Revisit power points of today and brainstorm with community how to apply

Caroline County

Members- Malkia Johnson, Danielle Williams, Lars Hansen, Nancy McCloy, Nilanyana Moulick, Kathy Smith

What's unique about your community needs?

- Poor economics
- Lack of resources- not umbrella concept
 - Where do individuals go with multiple needs
 - Who funds child, places child, where is point of entry
 - Where are all of the services available, what does each agency do
 - No afterschool opportunities, leisure opportunities, recreational activities for youth
 - Lack/no transportation

How can you take action on the plan?

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- Provide centralized coordination of services. Many agencies involve with individual- provide one set of standards for one point of entry for child
- Vocational sharing with other agencies (i.e. share services and expertise with other agencies)

What are your needs?

- College not for everyone- what else?
- Apprenticeship programs
- Needs for clients for disabilities and mental health issues
- Funding opportunities for vocational programs from state and federal government
- Funding opportunities for afterschool programs

What are your immediate next steps?

- **Community collaboration**
 - Exchange name, number, email addresses with other agencies
 - Visit other agencies and share information on what can be provided
 - Visit High schools and provide career days
 - Create Internships/Apprenticeships

Talbot County

Members: Jane Crawford, Susan Schumacher, Tonya Pritchett, Andrea Pulley, Marian Sinclair, Donna Hacker, Sandy Stanford, Jeanette Roberts and Tom Barkley (statewide)

What's unique about your community needs?

- Transportation
- Large population that have no interest in youth
- Economic diversion
- Job market not there- great number of unemployed (layoffs)

How can you take action on the plan?

- Share this plan with community
- Educate seniors on the need to invest in our youth, tap into the talent/ experiences they had
- Partnership with Youth Move

What are your needs?

- Jobs
- Transportation
- Affordable housing
- Opportunities for youth
- Funding

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- Better coordination for agencies
- Release of restrictions
- Accessibility and regulation limit (financial)
- Availability of services

What are your immediate next steps?

- Continue with collaboration- so many unfunded pieces
- Explore ways to generate interest
- Students begin a career development plan, focus on future
- Buy back into technical and vocational training centers
- Change attitude of college students about returning after leaving school

Dorchester County

Members: Robin Ruf, Mike Diaz, Pat Smith, Shareen Camper, Darlene Sampson, and Jason Casteneada

What's unique about your community needs?

- High Unemployment
- Lack of jobs
- Transportation
- High poverty population
- High dropout rates,
- Teen parents
- High STD rates

How can you take action on the plan?

- Partner with education to explore resources through Aces Program
- Collaboration with all regional agencies- public and private to create opportunities for connectivity.

What are your needs?

- Education (school) driven “discharge plan.” What are the students going to do after leaving school? This plan will address the 4 benchmarks areas – Health, Housing, Education and Employment

What are your immediate next steps?

- Coordinate a meeting with the local agencies that provide services to youth. These agencies include not only state agencies but private providers
- Follow up with LMB Director

Garrett County site

What is unique about your community needs?

- Incredibly rural
- Limited youth employment. There is not funding to employ ALL youth
- Limited career opportunities in the counties for individuals with degrees
- Lack of transportation
- Lack of specialty services, particularly health care
- Limited employment opportunities for all
- Universal access to post secondary education (Commissioner's Scholarship)
- Career / Technology Center is being built
- Employment for foster care youth in the county is a strength
- Career development begins middle school, but is limited
- Need employment skills
- Youth need the support to know which steps to take next
- Gap between kids who come from unstable families and foster care kids. No programs to support these youth in regards to work readiness. (e.g. family preservation- tough to meet all of the families' needs) c
- Chronic issues with family management are not being addressed.
- Lack of support after students are out of school
- Parents may abandon their children at 18, or before
- Lack of mentors
- Youth give up after experiencing failure
- Parents are not involved enough, filling out student aid, etc.
- Youth lack drive/ focus / goals
- Few programs in the county for girls, which is becoming an increasing need (self-esteem, relationships, health, substance abuse, hygiene) happening across the board, not just needy youth
- Need job skills programs (dressing for employment, etc.)
- Lack of motivation from hopelessness or entitlement??
- Census identified a high number of idle youth

What can you be doing around this issue? How can you take action on the plan? What can you do with other stakeholders?

- School counselors should sit down with every 10th, 11th, and 12th grader to develop a plan. Currently, youth develop a 4 year plan, but more may be done
- Mentors for youth who are out of school to support career development. Mentors should work with youth before they get out of school, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade
- Allow flexibility for youth to change their career pathway in school
- Provide assistance with financial aid, college applications, etc

RB 21 Rollout- Garrett County Detailed Report Out, 3.24.10

- Engage parents- need an agency to engage parents. Cannot be done at the school b/c school does not serve 18-24 youth. A community college could take on with some of the assistance
- Students need other options, besides college, more vocational options too
- Board of Education should connect with Dept. of Juvenile Services to inform them of the youth's career pathway and across all systems

How can you take action on the plan? What can you do with other stakeholders?

- Grant writing team
- Identify who will take on the responsibility for the population
- Identify the youth who need assistance; where are they, what are they doing, and how many are there?
- Agencies must identify these youth, refer them to a champion
- Use social networking to reach the youth and also drag them out of the social networking world. More face to face interaction
- Ask the youth what their needs are, get the data and Independent living worker to work with youth who are not "in the system"
- Use the schools and unemployment office to find the youth, as well as social networking sites
- Youth become involved in a program similar to Ameri-Corp - youth volunteer in a place that may lead to an internship.
- Options to expand summer youth employment, pending funding
- Make it more feasible for youth to visit other areas for career exploration, like the Mountaineer Challenge Academy (Job Corp, currently not in GC). Advertise these types of programs. Would the college have space for an 8 week summer program, may be similar to Upward Bound. Sea Farers program, for example
- Link youth to available programs

What do you need from others, including the state of Maryland?

- Need to know how many people need services and to find out what the barriers are
- Need names of disconnected youth
- Source to make the referrals to
- Agencies could have more funding and staff to serve the Ready by 21 age group, while not taking funds from other age groups

Prince George's County

What's unique about your community needs?

- Beds for homeless youth
- Shortage of RRP beds for transitional youth
- Majority African Americans with emerging population of Hispanic families not prepared
- No free transportation for youth 3pm-7pm
- Transportation for jobs/afterschool outside beltway
- Core services need to infuse more positive youth development into systems
- Schools insufficient resources for working with youth with emotional and behavioral disorders
- Lack of advocates (groups, etc.) for youth issues (both for youth with and without disabilities and other disconnected youth.
- A lot of people working in the county "systems" do not reside in county

How can you take action on the plan?

- Some standard for delivering services to youth- basic expectations
- Roadmaps or easier ways to navigate systems or one stop approach to providing support for youth
- Concerted efforts to engage parents- inter county "Council of Parents" parents representing different services (Education, Juvenile Justice, Mental Health, etc.)
- Data collection around homeless youth, youth aging out of the services, etc.
- Service delivery system analysis as a total
- Coalitions of youth service agencies/systems to examine work each does- interagency work to achieve Ready by 21.
- Hire someone to bring everyone together
- Open up to all stakeholders
- Look at successful Ready by 21 models

What are your needs?

- Ready by 21 plan more inclusive of youth with mental health needs
- Better agency connection (real connection –not just on paper)
- All services in place between 18-21, before they turn 21.
- Commitment from Governor for funding to support appropriate services that meet county needs
- Therapeutic services need to make the connection with disconnected youth- cannot expect disconnected youth to take initiative to connect
- Training for service providers on ways to connect (positive youth development, etc.)
- Continuous engagement of youth

RB 21 Rollout- Montgomery County Detailed Report Out, 3.24.10

- Conversation about conflict between risk-taking and creative problem solving
- Parent groups needed including parents of disconnected youth
- See youth as stakeholders

What are your immediate next steps?

- Identify true stakeholders and youth and bring them together
- Share accurate information about the focus of Ready by 21
- Identify a model to guide what we do and how we do it
- Ready by 21 marketing strategy to engage stakeholders

Frederick and Washington Counties

What's unique about your community needs?

- Rural counties
- Lack of transportation
- Fewer employment opportunities
- No transitional living- limited treatment foster care or group foster care- few foster homes for teens
- No teen recreational programs
- No mentoring
- Lack of post secondary training/jobs
- Cultural barriers- need interpreters

How can you take action on the plan?

- Healthy Transitions grant
 - Employment, recreation, mental health , drop in center housing assistance
- Family unification vouchers
- Ready by 21 committee
- Workforce- Girls and Boys Club- MS program for careers
- MSTC grant- MD seamless transition grant

What are your needs?

- Funding
- Mentors that are committed
- Agency collaboration
- Local decision making pertinent to community
- Funding for driving education/on the road for licensure. Collaborate with DSS/MVA driving schools.

What are your immediate next steps?

RB 21 Rollout- Montgomery County Detailed Report Out, 3.24.10

- Agencies need to connect
- Need to take action
 - Identify agencies who can provide services
 - Housing for young adults
 - Services- mental health and disabilities
 - Career training after high school
 - Youth driven care

Montgomery County

What's unique about your community needs?

- High level of immigrants
- Ethnic diversity and income differences
- Large number of undocumented youth that have no future
- Large number of teenage pregnancies
- Transient community
- Gang issues
- Lack of entry level jobs
- Housing issue- too few cost too much
- Transportation
- Disconnect between entitlement until they are in school and significant decrease when they leave.

How can you take action on the plan?

- Build a consortium of public/private partners that could be convened by a neutral body in each county to address transition aged youth issues
- Ensure that there is ethnic diversity in this group
- Engage business community to develop internship and other employment opportunities
- Treatment programs should include specific life skills and vocational skills training and development
- Develop innovative mentoring programs for college and H.S. youth where they receive incentives for mentoring younger youth
- Targeted early intervention while youth are in middle school
- Make the school and community connection stronger so that families are engaged
- Engage the faith based community so that resources that they have can be utilized
- Provide education, support and resources so that families are not asking youth to leave at 18
- Allow agency involved youth access to job readiness programs
- Partner with legal system to determine ways to expunge charges for youth that commit non-violent offenses i.e. drug possession

RB 21 Rollout- Montgomery County Detailed Report Out, 3.24.10

What are your needs?

- Need for coordinator and leadership that can convene partners for all facets together
- Provide supports and resources so that agencies can do effective transition planning for their youth
- Provide incentives to businesses that buy into the vision and employ youth or create similar opportunities (i.e. on site GED class, internship opportunity while in school)
- Consider housing subsidies for transition aged youth
- Schools should get credit for moving youth to employment instead of just college- have career tracks
- Coordinate a public relations campaign so that this initiative gains attention-engage the private sector

What are your immediate next steps?

- Recommend that the state identifies county specific Ready by 21 coordinator that will assist each jurisdiction with the transition aged youth population
- Recommend that the state embark on a public relations campaign to bring this issue to the forefront
- Establish baselines/benchmarks and timelines so that outcomes will be established and data collected
- Montgomery county is ready and willing to engage in both public and private partnerships and offer expertise to problem solve

2nd Montgomery County Group

What's unique about your community needs?

- Teen pregnancy
- High Cost of Living
- Childhood obesity
- Gang issues- lack of family support
- Illegal aliens
 - no post secondary school
 - difficult to employ
 - limited social safety net
- Trouble getting SSI and SSDI- lack of info for families opportunities and services- even harder if no caring adult
- High School dropouts
- Supportive employment needs

What are your needs?

RB 21 Rollout- Montgomery County Detailed Report Out, 3.24.10

- Fund local and state family organizations
- Fund Youth Move in local jurisdictions and Youth Move Maryland
- Adequately fund Local Management Boards so that they can continue their excellent work
- Keep decision making, funding and monitoring at the local level
- Can high school dropouts get vocational training at Montgomery College
- Better communication about available services
- Need funding for comprehensive web site information, to augment MD transition.gov and incentivize businesses that have supportive employment and employee assistance program

What are your immediate next steps?

- Local level asset mapping
- Align Ready by 21 Goals
- Address gaps
- Explore local resources for high school dropouts
 - Internships
 - Apprenticeships
 - Partner with the Chamber of Commerce
 - Expand Gateway and Youth Build programs
- Transitioning youth with disabilities
 - Expand St. Luke's and similar programs
 - Maintain DDA transitioning youth initiative
- Implement Transition to Independence Program (TIP)
 - Write proposal for funds
- Expand wrap-around post 21 years of age
- Implement Copeland Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP)
 - Self directed care
- Engage youth and families as equal partners at every level of decision making
- "Cook Mobile:"Solicit funds to refurbish used MCPS school bus as a movable kitchen classroom

Wicomico County

What's unique about your community's needs?

- Lack of employers
- Transportation
- License process (DSS now has benchmarks)
- Work Permits (age 14)
- High FARMS (Free and Reduced Rate Meals) rate for county (Wicomico and Somerset)
- Attendance is tied to driver's license, dropout rate
- High mobility rate (mobility=moving two or more times during a school year)
- High adolescent pregnancy rate
- Cultural norms that do not support education
- Lack of free afterschool/out of school programs
- Disconnectedness/lack of knowledge of available resources
- Lack of communication from agencies about resources to public
- Lack of self efficacy
- Apathy
- Learned hopelessness

What can you be doing around this issue? How can you take action on the plan? What can you do with other stakeholders?

- Economic development
- Identify key stakeholders, increase involvement
- Establish more afterschool programs that children are interested in
- More vocational/course offerings
- Focus on functional skills in all programs
- Comprehensive, integrated programs
- Cultural (arts, music)
- Entrepreneurialism
- Motivate the faith community to be partners

Other Stakeholders

- Faith Community
- DDA- Development Disabilities Administration
- WIA- Workforce Investment Act
- Business Community
- Community at large/constituents
- Institutions of Higher Education

RB 21 Rollout- Wicomico County Detailed Report Out, 3.24.10

- DJS- Dept. of Juvenile Services
- BOE- Board of Education
- Families
- PRMC- Peninsula Regional Medical Center /Medical
- Retirees
- Law enforcement
- Judicial System
- Community Youth Organizations
- Civic Organization

What do you need from others, including the State of Maryland?

- Reality of local perspective
- Funding

What are your immediate steps?

- Finding the common interests that unify all stakeholders
- Look at summer job opportunities/funding
- Work with parents early on to build skills
- What are the core values of our youth? Instill morals, values and ethics